

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1-9. (Cancelled)

10. (New) An enterprise information filtering system comprising:

an organization definition information storage unit that stores organization definition information, which includes information regarding layers of a multi-layered structure of an enterprise, including names of the layers, positions of the layers with respect to other layers and names of persons assigned to the layers and additional information regarding the persons, including management responsibilities;

a contents storage unit for storing information regarding the performance of the enterprise that is to be filtered by the enterprise information filtering system;

filter definition information generating means for: identifying a type of information requested by a user of the enterprise information filtering system; correlating the type of information requested by a user of the enterprise information filtering system with a type of organization definition information stored in the organization definition information storage unit; and combining the type of information requested by a user of the enterprise information filtering system and the correlated type of organization definition information to create a filtering condition to be used by the enterprise information filtering system;

a filter definition information storage unit for storing the filtering condition; and

filtering means for utilizing the filtering condition and the organization definition information stored in the organization definition information storage unit to build a filter and using the filter to retrieve from information stored in the contents storage unit information pertaining to the request by the user of the enterprise information filtering system and regarding only the user and persons directly and indirectly managed by the user.

11. (New) The enterprise information filtering system as defined in claim 10 wherein, when the user of the enterprise information filtering system is assigned new or different management responsibilities, the filtering means: obtains organization definition information, corresponding to the assignment, from the organization definition information storage unit; utilizes the organization definition information to build the filter; and uses the filter to retrieve from information stored in the contents storage unit information pertaining to the request by the user and regarding only the user and persons directly and indirectly managed by the user.

12. (New) A method for filtering information regarding the performance of an enterprise, comprising the steps of:

storing in a first storage unit organization definition information, which includes information regarding layers of a multi-layered structure of an enterprise, including names of the layers, positions of the layers with respect to other layers and names of persons assigned to the layers and additional information regarding the persons, including management responsibilities;

storing in a second storage unit information regarding the performance of the enterprise;

identifying a type of information requested by a user, correlating the type of information requested by the user with a type of organization definition information stored in the first storage unit, and combining the type of information requested by the user and the correlated type of organization definition information to create a filtering condition;

storing the filtering condition in a third storage unit; and

utilizing the filtering condition and the organization definition information stored in the first storage unit to build a filter and using the filter to retrieve from information stored in the second storage unit information pertaining to the request by the user and regarding only the user and persons directly and indirectly managed by the user.

13. (New) The method as defined in claim 12 further comprising the steps of:  
when the user of the enterprise information filtering system is assigned new or different management responsibilities, obtaining organization definition information, corresponding to the assignment, from the first storage unit, utilizing the organization definition information to build the filter, and using the filter to retrieve from information stored in the second storage unit information pertaining to the request by the user and regarding only the user and persons directly and indirectly managed by the user.

14. (New) A storage medium storing therein a computer program that causes a computer to execute the steps of:

storing in a first storage unit organization definition information, which includes information regarding layers of a multi-layered structure of an enterprise, including names of the layers, positions of the layers with respect to other layers and names of persons assigned to the layers and additional information regarding the persons, including management responsibilities;

storing in a second storage unit information regarding the performance of the enterprise;

identifying a type of information requested by a user, correlating the type of information requested by the user with a type of organization definition information stored in the first storage unit, and combining the type of information requested by the user and the correlated type of organization definition information to create a filtering condition;

storing the filtering condition in a third storage unit; and

utilizing the filtering condition and the organization definition information stored in the first storage unit to build a filter and using the filter to retrieve from information stored in the second storage unit information pertaining to the request by the user and regarding only the user and persons directly and indirectly managed by the user.

15. (New) The storage medium as defined in claim 14 further storing therein a computer program that causes the computer to execute the steps of:

when the user of the enterprise information filtering system is assigned new or different management responsibilities, obtaining organization definition information, corresponding to the assignment, from the first storage unit, utilizing the organization definition information to build the filter, and using the filter to retrieve from information stored in the second storage unit information pertaining to the request by the user and regarding only the user and persons directly and indirectly managed by the user.